

Remarks

Claims 1-18 were pending in the present application, all of which have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. The above new claims have been presented. It is submitted that the pending claims define allowable subject matter.

The above new claims are believed to avoid the objections raised in the prior Office Action.

Claims 12-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. section 103 as being unpatentable over Robinson in view of Vancelette and further in view of Urella. It is submitted that the new claims above are patentably distinct over the prior art.

In the Office Action, claims 1-7 were allowed and reasons for allowance were provided. The above new claims include, in various combinations, one or more of the elements noted in the reasons for allowance as lacking from the prior art. Thus, the above claims are believed patentable over the prior art.

In view of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the prior art fails to teach or suggest the claimed invention. Should anything remain in order to place the present application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dean Small, Reg. No.: 34,730
ARMSTRONG TEASDALE LLP
One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600
St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2740
(314) 621-5070